

“George L. Hanna” Memorial Awards for Bravery Criteria

The “George L. Hanna” memorial awards for bravery program consists of 4 levels:

1. Medal of Honor. The highest award.

Awarded to a police officer that demonstrates actions above and beyond the call of duty, *in the face of certain and imminent danger to life and limb.*

The Medal of Honor award has historically been reserved for those acts which:

- Are performed in the course of a dangerous incident; to save/protect the life of a colleague or citizen; in selfless disregard for the officer’s own safety.
- Often result in great cost to the officer (including loss of life).

Medal of Honor recipients should display the highest levels of professionalism, competence, leadership, and clear thinking during a dangerous incident while on or off duty.

2. Medal of Valor. The second highest award.

Awarded to a police officer who demonstrates actions above and beyond the call of duty, *disregarding the potential for danger to him/herself.*

3. Meritorious Recognition. The third highest award.

Awarded to a police officer who demonstrates actions above and beyond the call of duty, but whose actions may not reach the level of the Medal of Honor or Valor.

The meritorious recognition award has historically been reserved for those acts which:

- Are performed in addition to the regular course of duty; and demonstrate leadership, commitment and selflessness; and high levels of professionalism and competence.

4. Group Award.

Any of the above awards may be awarded as a group award – for example: “Meritorious Conduct – group award.”

This category should be considered in situations involving multiple officers, whose individual roles cannot be measured or weighed against the actions of other officers involved in the incident. Rather, it is for those officers who, acting in concert with each other, display a high level of teamwork in controlling a disturbance or in bringing an incident under control.

PLEASE NOTE: Nominations should be based upon an individual’s or group’s response to a critical incident or outstanding performance. Nominations should not be based upon an officer’s response to an incident that is considered to be routine police work; or for an expected course of action committed in the performance of a police officer’s duties.

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